



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*Ch*  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/809,859

03/26/2004

Isamu Ohshita

107156-00232

7595

7590 02/07/2007  
ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC  
Suite 600  
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036-5339

EXAMINER

WALFORD, NATALIE K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2879

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

02/07/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/809,859	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OHSHITA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Natalie K. Walford	<b>Art Unit</b> 2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

The Amendment, filed on November 15, 2006, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner. Cancellation of claims 1-17 has been entered. Newly added claims 18-23 has been entered. Claims 18-23 are pending in the instant application.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ishii et al. (US 6,520,821).

Regarding claim 22, Ishii discloses an organic EL display panel in figure 1 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for closing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is formed by successively laminating a transparent lower electrode (item 2), an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 4b) made of a metal, and wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of an

upper electrode and an end portion of the cover (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), the non-luminescent areas of the cover are colored by a light-absorbable color capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii et al. (US 6,520,821) in view of Matthies et al. (US 6,476,783).

Regarding claim 18, Ishii is cited to show an organic EL display panel in figure 4 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for enclosing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is formed by successively laminating a transparent lower electrode (item 2), an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 4b) made of a metal, wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of an upper electrode and an end portion of the cover (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), the non-luminescent areas of the cover are colored by a light-absorbable color capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an

Art Unit: 2879

internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), but does not expressly disclose that said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment, as claimed by Applicant. The Examiner notes however, that Ishii discloses that the substrate and cover are welded together (column 5, lines 12-15) instead of using an adhesive. Matthies is cited to show a display device in figure 1 or 2, where if the display device is formed in two sections (i.e. substrate and cover), a dark-colored adhesive can be used to join the two sections (column 4, lines 60-66). Matthies teaches that if the adhesive is dark-colored, it can absorb ambient light that is transmitted through the display section (column 1, line 66 thru column 2, line 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ishii's invention to include said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment as suggested by Matthies for absorbing ambient light.

Regarding claim 19, Ishii discloses an organic EL display panel in figure 4 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for enclosing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is formed by laminating a lower electrode (item 2), an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 4b) made of a metal, wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of an upper electrode and an end portion of the cover (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area of the cover is provided with a colored layer having a color

Art Unit: 2879

capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), and wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), but does not expressly disclose that said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment, as claimed by Applicant. The Examiner notes however, that Ishii discloses that the substrate and cover are welded together (column 5, lines 12-15) instead of using an adhesive. Matthies is cited to show a display device in figure 1 or 2, where if the display device is formed in two sections (i.e. substrate and cover), a dark-colored adhesive can be used to join the two sections (column 4, lines 60-66). Matthies teaches that if the adhesive is dark-colored, it can absorb ambient light that is transmitted through the display section (column 1, line 66 thru column 2, line 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ishii's invention to include said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment as suggested by Matthies for absorbing ambient light.

Regarding claim 20, Ishii discloses an organic EL display panel in figure 4 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for enclosing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is formed by laminating a lower electrode (item 2), an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 4b) made of a metal, wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the

Art Unit: 2879

organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of an upper electrode and an end portion of the cover (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area of the cover is provided with a colored sheet having a color capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), but does not expressly disclose that said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment, as claimed by Applicant. The Examiner notes however, that Ishii discloses that the substrate and cover are welded together (column 5, lines 12-15) instead of using an adhesive. Matthies is cited to show a display device in figure 1 or 2, where if the display device is formed in two sections (i.e. substrate and cover), a dark-colored adhesive can be used to join the two sections (column 4, lines 60-66). Matthies teaches that if the adhesive is dark-colored, it can absorb ambient light that is transmitted through the display section (column 1, line 66 thru column 2, line 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ishii's invention to include said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment as suggested by Matthies for absorbing ambient light.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii et al. (US 6,250,821) in view of Matthies et al. (US 6,476,783) in further view of Biebuyck et al. (US 5,734,225).

Regarding claim 21, Ishii discloses an organic EL display panel in figure 4 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for enclosing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is a lower electrode made of a metal (item 4b), an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 2) having a transparency, wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of a lower electrode and an end portion of the substrate (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), wherein the non-luminescent areas of the cover are colored by a light-absorbable color capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), but does not expressly disclose that the organic device is formed by successively laminating the lower electrode first, then organic luminescent layer, and upper electrode last, and wherein said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment, as claimed by Applicant. The Examiner notes however, that Ishii discloses that the substrate and cover are welded together (column 5, lines 12-15) instead of using an adhesive. Matthies is cited to show a display device in figure 1 or 2, where if the display device is formed in two sections (i.e. substrate and cover), a dark-colored adhesive can be used to join the two sections (column 4, lines 60-66). Matthies teaches that if the adhesive is dark-colored, it can absorb ambient light that is transmitted through the display section (column 1, line 66 thru column 2, line 3). Biebuyck is cited to show an organic EL display panel (item 10) in figure 1



Art Unit: 2879

with a cathode (item 12) formed on a substrate (item 11), with organic layers (items 13-15) and an anode (item 16) formed successively. Biebuyck shows that light can be emitted away from the substrate instead of towards the substrate (FIG. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ishii's invention to include said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment, and wherein said transmission vision preventing means is an adhesive agent colored with a predetermined pigment as suggested by Matthies and Biebuyck for absorbing ambient light and preferred direction of light.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii et al. (US 6,250,821) in view of Biebuyck et al. (US 5,734,225).

Regarding claim 23, Ishii discloses an organic EL display panel in figure 4 which emits light from a transparent substrate (item 1), including a transparent cover (item 5) provided for enclosing organic EL device(s) (items 2, 3, and 4b) formed on the substrate, wherein each organic device is a lower electrode (item 4b) made of a metal, an organic luminescent layer (item 3), and an upper electrode (item 2) having a transparency, wherein at least non-luminescent areas of the cover of the organic EL display panel are provided with transmission vision preventing means (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), and each non-luminescent area is disposed between an end portion of a lower electrode and an end portion of the substrate (FIG. 4 and column 5, lines 1-6), wherein the non-luminescent areas of the cover are colored by a light-absorbable color capable of absorbing a light having a wavelength within a visible light region (FIG. 4 and

Art Unit: 2879

column 5, lines 1-6), wherein the organic EL device(s) are sealed by filling an internal space (item 6) formed between the substrate and the cover with an inert gas (column 2, lines 47-48), but does not expressly disclose that the organic device is formed by successively laminating the lower electrode first, then organic luminescent layer, and upper electrode last, as claimed by Applicant. Biebuyck is cited to show an organic EL display panel (item 10) in figure 1 with a cathode (item 12) formed on a substrate (item 11), with organic layers (items 13-15) and an anode (item 16) formed successively. Biebuyck shows that light can be emitted away from the substrate instead of towards the substrate (FIG. 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ishii's invention to that the organic device is formed by successively laminating the lower electrode first, then organic luminescent layer, and upper electrode last as suggested by Biebuyck for preferred direction of light.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Art Unit: 2879

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalie K. Walford whose telephone number is (571)-272-6012. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571)-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2879

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

nkW

*W. W. W.*  
*2/2/07*

*Sikha Roy*  
*2/3/07*  
*AU 2879*